

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 NEA-10

TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 IO-13 OIC-04 AEC-11 ACDA-19

OMB-01 FBO-01 SY-10 RSR-01 /168 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1371

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4079

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: CONFERENCE FACILITIES AND NATO JOINT FACILITY IN
VIENNA

REF: USNATO 3978

SUMMARY: NATO IS TEAM RETURNED FROM VISIT TO VIENNA (REFTEL)
AND REPORTED RESULTS OF VISIT TO MBFR ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP ON
AUGUST 30. NATO ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR KUNZIG, WHO SERVED AS
HEAD OF THE TEAM, REPORTED THAT AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT WAS NOT RPT
NOT SURE THAT HOFBURG PALACE WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN TIME FOR OPENING
OF MBFR CONFERENCE. HE ALSO REPORTED THAT THERE ARE AS YET NO RPT
NO FIRM OFFERS FOR A BUILDING TO HOUSE NATO FACILITY. END SUMMARY.

1. CONFERENCE BUILDING-KUNZIG REPORTED THAT AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT
HAS NOT YET DECIDED ON LOCATION OF MBFR CONFERENCE. HEAD OF
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES OFFICE IN AUSTRIAN MFA HOPED THAT
NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE AT HOFBURG PALACE, BUT GOA WOULD NOT
TAKE A DECISION UNTIL RETURN OF MINISTER. GOA WANTS TO USE
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GOVERNMENT-OWNED FACILITIES, BECAUSE OF COST-SAVING FACTOR,
BUT POSSIBILITIES ARE RESTRICTED. EVEN IF HOFBURG IS APPROVED,
A NUMBER OF ROOMS ARE NOT YET READY. MFA IS CONSIDERING
POSSIBILITY OF STARTING CONFERENCE AT KONGRESSHAUS AND MOVING

INTO THE HOFBURG IN JANUARY.

2. NATO FACILITY-IS TEAM EXAMINED 11 BUILDINGS (MOST LISTED IN REFTTEL) AND DETERMINED THAT THERE WERE FOUR SUITABLE LOCATIONS. KUNZIG PREFACED HIS REMARKS ON THOSE FOUR BUILDINGS BY NOTING THAT THERE WERE AS YET NO RPT NO FIRM OFFERS ON ANY OF THEM AND THAT IT WAS BECOMING PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO MEET EARLY OCTOBER DEADLINE FOR OPENING, UNLESS ALL PARTIES INVOLVED MADE PROMPT DECISIONS. KUNZIG DESCRIBED FOUR BUILDINGS AS FOLLOWS:

A. 21 SCHOTTENRING-THIS BUILDING WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE, BUT IT APPEARS INCREASINGLY UNLIKELY THAT GOA WOULD MAKE IT AVAILABLE.

B. 1 RENWEG-GOOD LOCATION NEAR HOFBURG, BUT MAJOR SECURITY DISADVANTAGE DUE TO LOCATION NEXT TO YUGOSLAVAIN EMBASSY. NATO SECURITY DIRECTOR ABIDIAN THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO MAKE PART OF THIS; BUILDING SECURE. (UK REP REMARKED AT MEETING, HOWEVER, THAT LONDON WOULD NOT AGREE TO THIS BUILDING BECAUSE IT WOULD NOT TAKE ANY SECURITY RISK IN CONNECTION WITH ESTABLISHING NATO FACILITY IN VIENNA.)

C. PALAIS STRUDELHOF-19TH CENTURY MANSION; WELL EQUIPPED FOR CONFERENCE AND SECURITY PURPOSES, FORMERLY LEASED BY U.S. EMBASSY FOR SALT DELEGATION. THIS BUILDING WOULD PROBABLY TAKE THE LEAST PREPARATION, BUT THERE MIGHT BE DIFFICULTIES IN NEGOTIATING A LEASE, SINCE OWNER WANTS A THREE YEAR LEASE WITHOUT DIPLOMATIC CLAUSE. BUILDING ALSO LIMITED IN SPACE.

D. 83 GUMPENBORFER STRASSE-FORMERLY REJECTED, BUT OWNERS MAY NOW BE WILLING TO MAKE ARRANGEMENT. THEY WILL MAKE FIRM DECISION UPON RETURN OF SECOND OWNER. NEW BUILDING BUT STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND IT IS NOT CERTAIN THAT BUILDING COULD BE READY IN OCTOBER.

3. KUNZIG EXPECTS TO RECEIVE MORE DETAILS ON LAST TWO BUILDINGS
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IN NEXT FEW DAYS, AFTER WHICH HE WILL CIRCULATE A REPORT ON TEAM'S FINDINGS WHICH MISSION WILL TRANSMIT TO WASHINGTON AND VIENNA.

4. COMMENT: KUNZIG TOLD US PRIVATELY AFTER MEETING THAT IN TEAM'S UNANIMOUS VIEW WAS THAT LAST TWO ALTERNATIVES SEEMED MOST PROMISING AND, OF THESE, THAT PALAIS STRUDELHOF BETTER MET NATO REQUIREMENTS.
KEY IS TO GET FIRM OFFER AND THEN NEGOTIATE ACCEPTABLE LEASE.

MCAULIFFE.

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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